(c) and (d) The SPV is in the process of being set up. So far no infrastructure projects have been submitted to the SPV for funding.

Enhancement of India-Pakistan Trade

13. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Pakistan have agreed to enhance their cooperation in trade and commerce;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has rejected to extend the list of importable items from India which at present stands at 70; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir, India and Pakistan have set up a Joint Study Group (JSG) at the level of Commerce Secretaries for adopting a strategy for boosting trade between the two countries.

The first meeting of the JSG was held in New Delhi on February 22-23, 2005 and it had detailed discussions on promotion of trade and economic cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries. The JSG constituted two Working/Sub-Groups, on Customs Cooperation & Trade Facilitation Measures and Non Tariff Barriers (NTBs). The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Sub-Groups were mutually agreed upon.

(b) The present list of importable items from India (Positive List of Pakistan) consists of 771 items. During the trade talks within the Composite Dialogue held in New Delhi on August 9-10-2005, Pakistan side agreed to consider the request of Indian side to include some more items in the Positive List.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and export of tea

†14. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the tea production during the current fiscal year till date and how does it fare with the last year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.